

Federal Communications Commission

§ 51.709

such traffic to the called party's premises.

(e) *Reciprocal compensation.* For purposes of this subpart, a reciprocal compensation arrangement between two carriers is one in which each of the two carriers receives compensation from the other carrier for the transport and termination on each carrier's network facilities of telecommunications traffic that originates on the network facilities of the other carrier.

[61 FR 45619, Aug. 29, 1996, as amended at 66 FR 26806, May 15, 2001]

§ 51.703 Reciprocal compensation obligation of LECs.

(a) Each LEC shall establish reciprocal compensation arrangements for transport and termination of telecommunications traffic with any requesting telecommunications carrier.

(b) A LEC may not assess charges on any other telecommunications carrier for telecommunications traffic that originates on the LEC's network.

§ 51.705 Incumbent LECs' rates for transport and termination.

(a) An incumbent LEC's rates for transport and termination of telecommunications traffic shall be established, at the election of the state commission, on the basis of:

(1) The forward-looking economic costs of such offerings, using a cost study pursuant to §§ 51.505 and 51.511;

(2) Default proxies, as provided in § 51.707; or

(3) A bill-and-keep arrangement, as provided in § 51.713.

(b) In cases where both carriers in a reciprocal compensation arrangement are incumbent LECs, state commissions shall establish the rates of the smaller carrier on the basis of the larger carrier's forward-looking costs, pursuant to § 51.711.

§ 51.707 Default proxies for incumbent LECs' transport and termination rates.

(a) A state commission may determine that the cost information available to it with respect to transport and termination of telecommunications traffic does not support the adoption of a rate or rates for an incumbent LEC that are consistent with the require-

ments of §§ 51.505 and 51.511. In that event, the state commission may establish rates for transport and termination of telecommunications traffic, or for specific components included therein, that are consistent with the proxies specified in this section, provided that:

(1) Any rate established through use of such proxies is superseded once that state commission establishes rates for transport and termination pursuant to §§ 51.705(a)(1) or 51.705(a)(3); and

(2) The state commission sets forth in writing a reasonable basis for its selection of a particular proxy for transport and termination of telecommunications traffic, or for specific components included within transport and termination.

(b) If a state commission establishes rates for transport and termination of telecommunications traffic on the basis of default proxies, such rates must meet the following requirements:

(1) *Termination.* The incumbent LEC's rates for the termination of telecommunications traffic shall be no greater than 0.4 cents (\$0.004) per minute, and no less than 0.2 cents (\$0.002) per minute, except that, if a state commission has, before August 8, 1996, established a rate less than or equal to 0.5 cents (\$0.005) per minute for such calls, that rate may be retained pending completion of a forward-looking economic cost study.

(2) *Transport.* The incumbent LEC's rates for the transport of telecommunications traffic, under this section, shall comply with the proxies described in § 51.513(c) (3), (4), and (5) of this part that apply to the analogous unbundled network elements used in transporting a call to the end office that serves the called party.

[61 FR 45619, Aug. 29, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 52709, Oct. 8, 1996]

§ 51.709 Rate structure for transport and termination.

(a) In state proceedings, a state commission shall establish rates for the transport and termination of telecommunications traffic that are structured consistently with the manner that carriers incur those costs, and consistently with the principles in §§ 51.507 and 51.509.